IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 5 and 6 and AMEND claims 1, 3 and 7 in accordance with the following:

1. (currently amended) A numerical controller for performing a superposing control to control motion of a slave axis parallel to a master axis for moving a workpiece, by a superposed motion command obtained by superposing a motion command for the master axis on a motion command for the slave axis, comprising:

means for receiving a slave-axis motion suspending command commanded by a program or an inputted signal in the superposing control; and

means for suspending the motion of the slave axis and subtracting an amount of the motion command, commanding the master axis, from a coordinate value of the slave axis in a workpiece coordinate system set to the workpiece when the slave-axis motion suspending command is received, wherein

the superposing control is continued while the motion of the slave axis is suspended.

2. (original) A numerical controller according to claim 1, further comprising:

means for receiving a slave-axis motion resuming command commanded by the program or an inputted signal; and

means for resuming the motion of the slave axis so that the superposing control is resumed when the slave-axis motion resuming command is received.

3. (currently amended) A method of performing a superposing control to control motion of a slave axis parallel to a master axis for moving a workpiece, by a superposed motion command obtained by superposing a motion command for the master axis on a motion command for the slave axis, comprising:

receiving a slave-axis motion suspending command commanded by a program or

an inputted signal in the superposing control; ~~and~~

suspending the motion of the slave axis and subtracting an amount of the motion command commanding the master axis from a coordinate value of the slave axis in a workpiece coordinate system set to the workpiece when the slave-axis motion suspending command is received; and

continuing the superposing control while the motion of the slave axis is suspended.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

receiving a slave-axis motion resuming command commanded by the program or an inputted signal; and

resuming the motion of the slave axis so that the superposing control is resumed when the slave-axis motion resuming command is received.

5. (cancelled)

6. (cancelled)

7. (currently amended) A numerical controller for performing a superposing control to control motion of a slave axis parallel to a master axis for moving a workpiece, by a superposed motion command obtained by superposing a motion command for the master axis on a motion command for the slave axis, comprising:

a first unit receiving a slave-axis motion suspending command commanded by a program or an inputted signal in the superposing control; and

a second unit suspending the motion of the slave axis and subtracting an amount of the motion command, commanding the master axis, from a coordinate value of the slave axis in a workpiece coordinate system set to the workpiece when the slave-axis motion suspending command is received, wherein

the superposing control is continued while the motion of the slave axis is suspended.